

Press Release



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Kubischta Recipient of State Parks Award of Excellence

Ben Kubischta, Mandan, is the recipient of the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department's 2005 Cal Renner Award of Excellence. The award was presented by Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple during the department's annual winter meeting in Bismarck on Wednesday, December 7.

The Cal Renner Award is the department's highest honor and recognizes individuals or groups whose long-term commitment to excellence has furthered the mission of the department, and benefited the state of North Dakota and their local community.

Kubischta, Special Programs Manager in the ND Department of Transportation's Local Government Division, was honored for his work on a variety of different projects coordinated by the ND Parks and Recreation Department, including the Scenic Byways and the Recreation Trails programs.

In making the nomination, Dave Leftwich, Local Government Division Engineer with the DOT, commended Kubischta for always looking for ways to assist communities, local groups and other state agencies to improve the quality of life for the people of North Dakota. "He is always the first one to volunteer to plant a tree, plant wildflowers, serve on a committee, take on new duties at work, anything that involves making the state a better place to live," Leftwich wrote.

Doug Prchal, director of the ND Parks and Recreation Department, praised Kubischta's work behind the scenes in improving outdoor recreation opportunities. "I've worked with Ben on a variety of programs ranging from bikeways to roadways. He always has good suggestions on how to take a good project and make it even better and more useful to the public."

The award is named in honor of the late Cal Renner, who served as the department's carpenter from 1987 to 1996. His commitment to excellence year in and year out, combined with his ability to work with a variety of individuals, employees and volunteers, set an outstanding example for excellence.